



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CAROTID ARTERY STIFFNESS PARAMETER β AND BRACHIAL ARTERY FLOW-MEDIATED DILATION IN CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

ACC Poster Contributions

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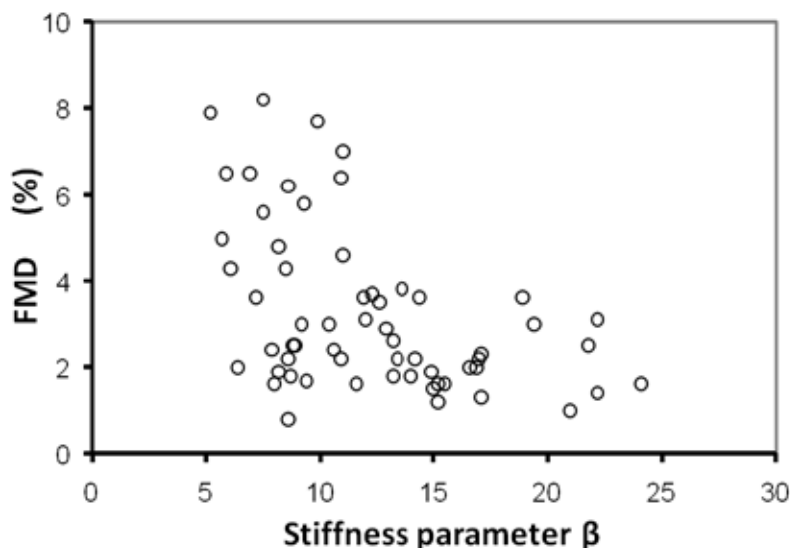
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Background: Arterial stiffness has been utilized as one of the non-invasive clinical markers for evaluating systemic atherosclerosis. Newly developed echo-tracking system enables us to obtain stiffness parameter β (β) easily from carotid ultrasound examination. On the other hand, brachial artery flow-mediated dilation (FMD) has become a useful non-invasive marker of early systemic atherosclerosis. We evaluated the relationship between the β and the FMD in patients with coronary artery disease (CAD).

Methods: The β and FMD were measured in 91 patients (66 \pm 7, male 61) with CAD. Carotid artery intima-media thickness (IMT), plaque score, creatinine, LDL-cholesterol, HDL-cholesterol, EPA/AA ratio, HbA1c were also evaluated in the subjects.

Results: The β was negatively correlated with FMD ($r = 0.65$ $p < 0.001$, figure). No other risk factors strongly correlated well with the β . Stepwise multiple regression analysis revealed that FMD, creatinine, LDL-cholesterol and mean IMT were found to be independent determinants of the β (FMD: $p < 0.001$, creatinine: $p = 0.007$, LDL-cholesterol: $p = 0.008$, mean IMT: $p = 0.005$).



Conclusion: The β correlated well with FMD suggesting that the β is associated with endothelial function which reflects early atherosclerotic change of vessels in CAD. This index may be an alternative predicting parameter for CAD.